

July 19. 2007

Interstate 17 Construction Update

Improvements Progressing on Interchange Projects

(Listen to an audio report of upcoming work)

Watch Our Progress!

It has only been a few weeks since construction began on I-17 interchange projects between Happy Valley Road and Carefree Highway (State Route 74) – and visible progress has already been made.

At the Jomax Road and Dixileta Drive overpasses, concrete for center pier columns has been poured and work has begun to remove the existing Skunk Creek bridge, just north of Happy Valley Road. Expect to see more progress on these new structures in the coming weeks, as well as transformation of the work zone as crews construct different sections of the bridges and ramps.

Work to construct the new Carefree Highway interchange is still in the early stages, with construction crews establishing the work zone and clearing paths for the new interchange ramp alignments.

Upcoming Restrictions

As part of the traffic interchange projects at Jomax Road, Dixileta Drive and Carefree Highway (State Route 74), continued temporary restrictions are scheduled on Interstate 17. Here's an overview of scheduled closures - for the most up-to-date listing, check the project <u>Web site</u>:

I-17 from Happy Valley Road to Dixileta Drive

Thursday, July 19, 9 p.m. - 5 a.m. Southbound I-17 will be restricted to one lane overnight, and the southbound off-ramp at Happy Valley Road will also be closed.

Friday, July 20, 9 p.m. - 7 a.m. Southbound I-17 will be restricted to one lane overnight.

I-17 from Happy Valley Road to Carefree Highway (State Route 74)

Sunday, July 22 - Thursday, July 26

9 p.m. - 5 a.m.

Northbound and southbound I-17 will be restricted to one lane overnight.

I-17 at Carefree Highway (State Route 74)

Saturday, July 21, 11 p.m. - 2 a.m.

Temporary lane and ramp restrictions are planned during overnight hours for APS overhead utility work. Expect up to 15-minute delays.

While ADOT strives to inform the public about planned freeway restrictions, during any complex construction project, there is a possibility that unscheduled closures or restrictions may occur. Please visit our <u>Web site</u> for the most current information about planned I-17 restrictions.

During I-17 construction, plan ahead for unexpected restrictions – and remember to slow down in the work zone. The speed limit on I-17 has been reduced to 45 mph from Happy Valley Road to Carefree Highway. The speed limit on the frontage roads has been reduced to 25 mph. The reduced speed limits are intended to protect you and your passengers, other drivers and workers in the construction zone.

All I-17 improvement projects from Loop 101 to Carefree Highway are scheduled for completion in 2009. Once improvements are underway to Carefree Highway, construction will begin on freeway widening north to Anthem Way.

An audio podcast outlining this week's I-17 Traffic Alert can be downloaded from the <u>ADOT Web site</u>.

- For general information about I-17 improvements, contact the I-17 project hotline at 480.890.3055 or projectupdate@lewin-associates.com.
- For information on construction activities, contact Brock Barnhart at 602.712.7176 or bbarnhart@azdot.gov.
- For traffic updates across Arizona, visit ADOT's Travel Information Site at www.az511.com or call 5-1-1.

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